

National Mental Health Association.
Suicide Prevention Action Network USA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 3, 2005

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday March 2, 2005, I was unable to cast my vote on H.R. 27, the Job Training Improvement Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 46, the Scott of Virginia amendment and "nay" on rollcall 48, the final passage of H.R. 27. I also would have voted "yea" on rollcall 43, 44, 45, and 47 and "nay" on rollcall 42.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF WEBB COUNTY COMMISSIONER JUDITH GUTIERREZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 3, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important achievements of Judith G. Gutierrez in Laredo, TX in my Congressional District.

Judith G. Gutierrez (Pct. 2) was elected in 1986, she held the office for two consecutive terms. Re-elected in 1999 and again in 2002, she will begin her fourth term of office in January 2003. Throughout her tenure, Gutierrez has taken a hands-on approach to colonia issues.

Former Attorney General Dan Morales appointed Commissioner Gutierrez to the state's Colonia Task Force. Former Governor Ann Richards selected Gutierrez to chair the Regional Review Committee for scoring federally funded projects such as Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and colonia set-aside funds. She served in this capacity for four years.

Commissioner Gutierrez worked with State legislators in 1989 to pass Senate Bill 2, which created the first colonia legislation, implementing rules to limit unscrupulous development. Senate Bill 2 also authorized the mechanism needed to provide funding for water and sewer improvements. To ensure regulatory enforcement at the local level, she created the Webb County's first Planning Department. This department has been recognized by the Texas Attorney General's office under Generals Morales and Cornyn as the model for colonia regulation and enforcement.

Total grant funds for projects initiated in Webb County during Gutierrez' term in office exceeds \$100 million. Since 1992, Commissioner Gutierrez has secured more than \$25 million in colonia improvement funds for her precinct alone. Projects have ranged from infrastructure—water, storm drainage, and community centers to educational and health initiatives.

In 1994, Commissioner Gutierrez was Governor Ann Richards' appointee to the South

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Texas Regional Prosperity Plan and also served on the Environmental Transition Team organized to consolidate the Texas Air Quality Control Board, the Water Commission and selected divisions of the Texas Health Department. In 2003 Governor Rick Perry appointed Commissioner Judith Gutierrez to the South Texas Regional Review Committee.

She is a past President of the South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association and currently serves as trustee for the Texas Association of Counties Health and Employees Benefits Pool. She has the distinction of being the only commissioner from Webb County to have ever served on the Intergovernmental Relations Steering Committee for the National Association of Counties, based in Washington, D.C.

She is the Secretary for the Texas Council Board of Directors and serves on the board of the Texas Council of Community Mental Health Retardation Centers, Inc. (MHMR). She chairs the County's Villa Antigua Committee, a historical preservation project, as well as the Committee to create the new Webb County Morgue. She was appointed by Judge Mercurio Martinez to serve on the Purchasing Board and to chair an Art Committee for the New Administration Building. She has also been elected in the year 2002 to be President of the Webb County HFC. Commissioner Gutierrez also serves on the Board of Texas Association of Counties Health and Employee Benefits Pool since 2001. She was recognized as one of the 2003 Tiger Legends for Martin High School. She was recently asked to join the Mercy Health Center Advisory Board for 2003 as well as the Border Area Nutrition Council.

Judith G. Gutierrez was born in Laredo, Texas to Sabino and Olga Garza. She attended Laredo schools and holds an Associate of Arts degree from Laredo Junior College. A successful businesswoman, for more than a decade Gutierrez owned and operated La Hacienda Mexican Restaurant. Commissioner Gutierrez has her Real Estate license and is in the process of securing a Real Estate Brokers license. She is the mother of four and has two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize Webb County Commissioner Judith Gutierrez.

REINTRODUCING "HOLLY'S LAW"

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 3, 2005

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, today, I am reintroducing "Holly's Law"—a bill that would suspend FDA approval of the drug RU-486. This bill has been introduced with 48 cosponsors. Senator JIM DEMINT has reintroduced Holly's Law in the Senate.

Holly's Law is named in memory of Holly Patterson, an 18-year-old Californian who died after taking the drug in 2003. When I tell people that the FDA approved a drug to treat a life-threatening illness that has killed three pregnant women and seriously injured dozens

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of other pregnant women in the United States, they're shocked. They want to know why the FDA and Congress would allow a drug that kills and injures young women to stay on the market. RU-486 is a drug that always kills babies and sometimes kills and seriously injures healthy young women.

I urge my colleagues to support Holly's Law to take the dangerous and unsafe drug RU-486 off the market.

TRIBUTE TO AM 1490 WMBM, SOUTH FLORIDA'S FIRST BLACK- OWNED AND OPERATED RADIO STATION—NEW BIRTH BROADCASTING CORPORATION CELEBRATES 10 YEARS IN RADIO

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 3, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to Bishop Victor T. Curry, D.D., Min, President and CEO, and to everyone at the New Birth Broadcasting Corporation as they celebrate their 10th year in radio.

Celebratory events will begin with a community worship service at 7 p.m. on March 9th and will feature Pastor Jeffrey A. Johnson, Sr. of the Eastern Star Church of Indianapolis, Indiana.

Since the purchase of AM 1490 WMBM, the landscape of gospel radio has changed dramatically. WMBM has received local as well as national recognition for its contribution to our local community, for it not only plays the best in gospel music, but it also provides its listeners with late-breaking news and inspirational, life-changing programming. WMBM, the first black-owned and operated station in South Florida, is one of the first radio stations to stream its broadcast via the internet. WMBM also publishes a quarterly nationally distributed magazine and an annual directory of black-owned and supported businesses.

I want to extend my warmest congratulations to Bishop Curry and his staff for doing such an important job so well, and my best wishes for another outstanding decade in broadcasting.

TAIWAN STRAIT RELATIONS

HON. FRANK D. LUCAS

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 3, 2005

Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, On December 29 of last year, the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress took a highly provocative action when it voted to submit an "Anti-Secession Law" to the full Congress which convenes on March 5.

The text of this proposed law was not made public, but there can be no doubt about its intent. It is intended to create in China's national law the legal justification for a military attack against Taiwan.

The law would spell out a range of activities which, if taken by the Taiwanese people and